

Wisconsin Architect



Honor Awards ● July 1983

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COMPARATIVE SPANS¹

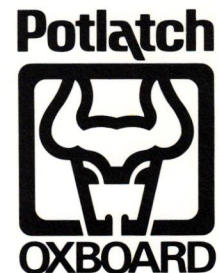
Sheathing Thickness		Oxboard and Plywood	Waferboard
3/8"	Sheathing—span index	24/0	NA
	Max. roof span/no clips	20	NA
7/16"	Sheathing—span index	24/16	24/0
	Max. roof span/no clips	24	16
1/2"	Sheathing—span index	32/16	24/16
	Max. roof span/no clips	28	24
5/8" ²	Sheathing—span index	40/20	NA
3/4" ²	Sheathing—span index	48/24	NA

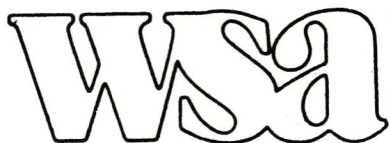
1—Left-hand number is maximum recommended spacing of roof framing in inches. Right-hand number is maximum span between floor joists.

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JULY 1983

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COVER CREDIT:
Macy Street Parking Ramp -
WSA Honor Award Winner,
Mike Hubregiste, photographer.

Job Opening

HELP WANTED . . . part time job for registered architect. Must be comfortable in making public appearances. Past experience as an elected public official or serving on public boards or commissions an asset. Must be politically involved and aware. Must have concern and interests pertaining to the built environment, the interaction of public regulation and the private sector, the future of the built environment and the costs associated with private and public sector activities. Age, marital status, political party affiliation and educational background not particularly relevant to job selection. Salary . . . \$24,000 plus excellent fringe benefits including travel reimbursement, per diem, insurance, paid vacation, many free meals (and drinks), and substantial latitude in establishing own working hours.

Are you interested in this job?

What's the job? Being a Wisconsin Senator or Assemblyperson.

By training and experience, architects are as well prepared as any professionals to serve in the legislature. The legislature needs individuals who are planners. The legislature needs individuals who are used to making decisions. The legislature needs individuals who have experience in the real world. The legislature needs individuals who are trained in both creating options in the problem solving process and then making a decision based on those options. Isn't that what architecture is all about?

A review of the personal data of the current crop of legislators indicates that there is public acceptance for all ages, colors, sexes, and occupations in the legislature.

While a number of current legislators do pursue their legislative job on a full time basis . . . a substantial number of the current legislators

still consider this employment to be part time. In other words . . . you can be a legislator and still pursue the private practice of architecture on the side.

What are the barriers which must be crossed in order to get an architecture in the legislature?

1) The individual seeking office must be politically involved.

2) The individual seeking office must be able to finance the costs of running for public office.

Neither of these hurdles are insurmountable. Political involvement is primarily a matter of commitment and participation. How much commitment and how much participation will vary depending upon the particular geographic area and the specific office being sought. Money isn't really the primary problem. Wisconsin has very liberal laws providing public funding for individuals seeking Senate or Assembly offices. When that money runs out . . . there's money from friends and

supporters. It's hard to imagine that the Wisconsin architectural community would not be pleased to assist in financing the right individual who is attempting to give us an architect in the Wisconsin Legislature.

If the Legislature isn't for you . . . there are lots of other options. Architects currently sit on school boards, are members of planning commissions, are on town boards, are on City Councils, and, generally, do participate in the political arena on various levels. Architecture needs more of this participation. Why? Two reasons. The first is that the nature of an architect's training and experience is such that architects have a lot to offer in the shaping of public policy. The second is that the profession needs this participation in order to remain viable.

Interested? Feel free to contact Eric at the WSA office to further discuss this matter as it pertains to your particular situation.



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HONOR AWARD

PROJECT

Tri-County Family Branch YMCA
Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin

OWNER

YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee, Inc.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

ARCHITECT

Kahler•Slater•Torphy•Engberg, Inc.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

CM Associates
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

CONSULTANTS

Graef-Anhalt-Schloemer
Lubenow & Gobster, Inc.
Walter R. Ratai, Inc.
Kornacki & Associates

PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

Richard Eells and Charles Engberg, AIA

The program was to design a family YMCA building of 58,000 square feet providing full range of athletic and social programs while giving the "Y" a new and distinctive image.

Sited on a south sloping peat bog between suburban ranch houses (north) and a nature preserve (south), the YMCA now controls land once called "unbuildable".

All athletic activities can be viewed from a double level central spine which also serves as a vestibule, lounge, vending area, and access zone to all locker rooms and health fitness centers. Glass curtain walls make visual interconnection of the major athletic activity areas possible. From the elevated running track one can watch games or exercise classes in the gym at the same time he or she views the sunlit pool across the corridor spine. This spatial drama is enhanced by clerestory monitors which bring natural light to both spine levels.

Inexpensive building materials (industrial aluminum siding, concrete block bearing walls, precast concrete plank, steel roof joists) are used in a way which transforms their "service" characteristics into a rich patterning of textures, intersections and colors.

Through the imaginative use of an "unbuildable site," inexpensive building materials and an understanding of the spatial significance of the functional program, this building has become a new "Y" prototype; it is open, efficient, flexible, inexpensive (58,200 square feet for \$3.1 million) and has exceeded the owner's expectations for functional, operational and aesthetic performance.

Jury Comments

We all admired this building in every way. Extremely well ordered. Nothing is forced. The clear planning of the building is most admirable. A very sophisticated exterior. An extremely skillful utilization of construction materials and visual elements which indicates that the project designer fully understands and utilizes with great skill.



HONOR AWARD

PROJECT

Macy Street Parking Ramp
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

OWNER

City of Fond du Lac
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

ARCHITECT

Bowen Williamson Zimmermann, Architects
Madison, Wisconsin

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Hutter Construction Co.
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

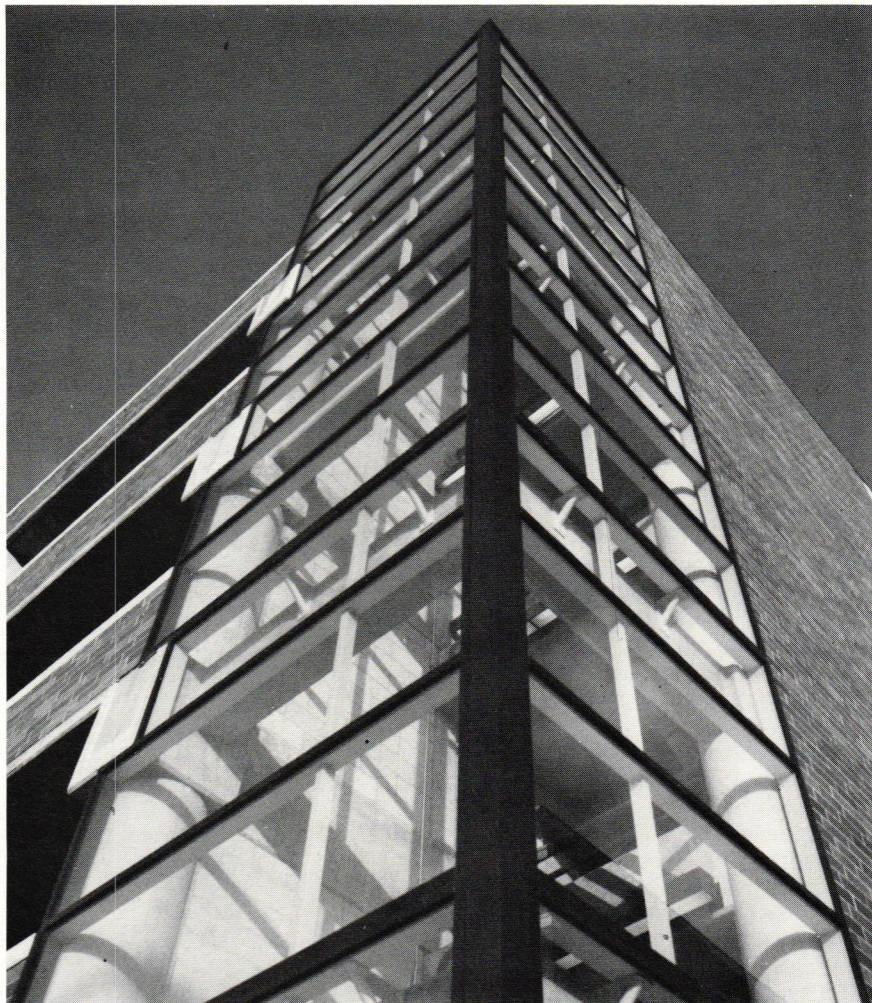
Mike Hubregiste
Studio 37
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

The program was to provide approximately 500 municipal parking stalls financed through the tax increment generated by surrounding private development.

The site was quite linear with single access and egress available only from the downtown one-way Ring Road.

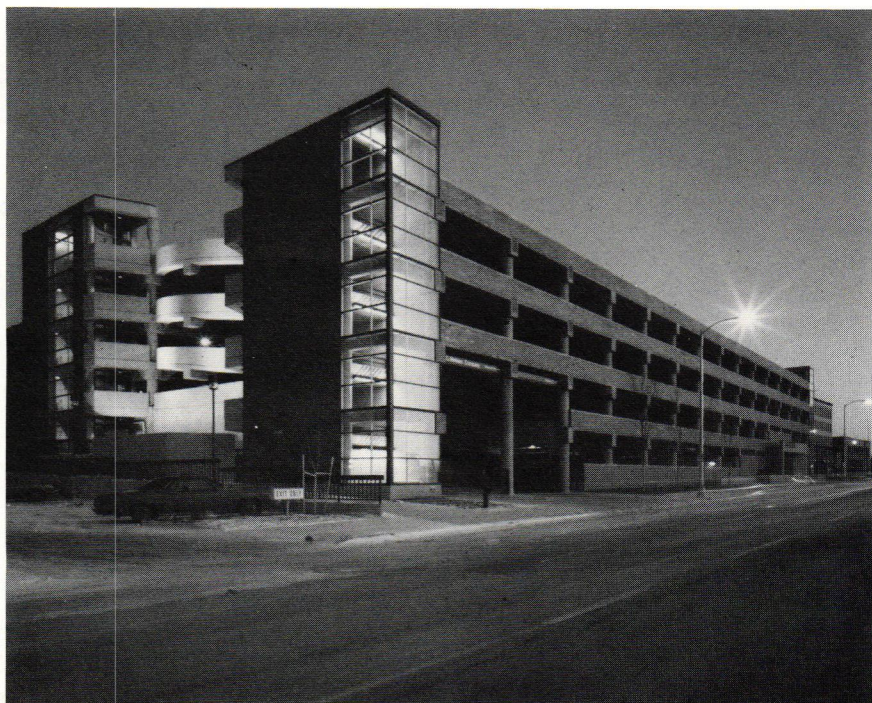
The solution utilized a staggered, one-way tray vehicle parking plan with pedestrian stairs and elevators located in each corner to facilitate easy movement. The vehicle movements were expressed as easy, curved ramps on the interior as well as exterior of the structure. The stairs and elevators were glass enclosed at the corners to minimize vandalism and assure pedestrian safe passage.

The massing of the facility was selected to fit with the anticipated private and public development.



Jury Comments

The architects were very successful in taking a building which is very difficult to integrate into an area and a town of this scale, and successfully related it to its site and adjacent buildings. The architects have made all of the right choices in terms of what to do, what to express, which elements should be important, and the functional layout of the building. The architects show great maturity and confidence in this solution. It is so well proportioned and thought through. There is a very noteworthy sophistication in the architects' vocabulary of materials and forms. The architects obviously cared about this project, and provided a very creative and skillful resolution to a building type which is many times treated by architects as a "THROW AWAY". Well proportioned.



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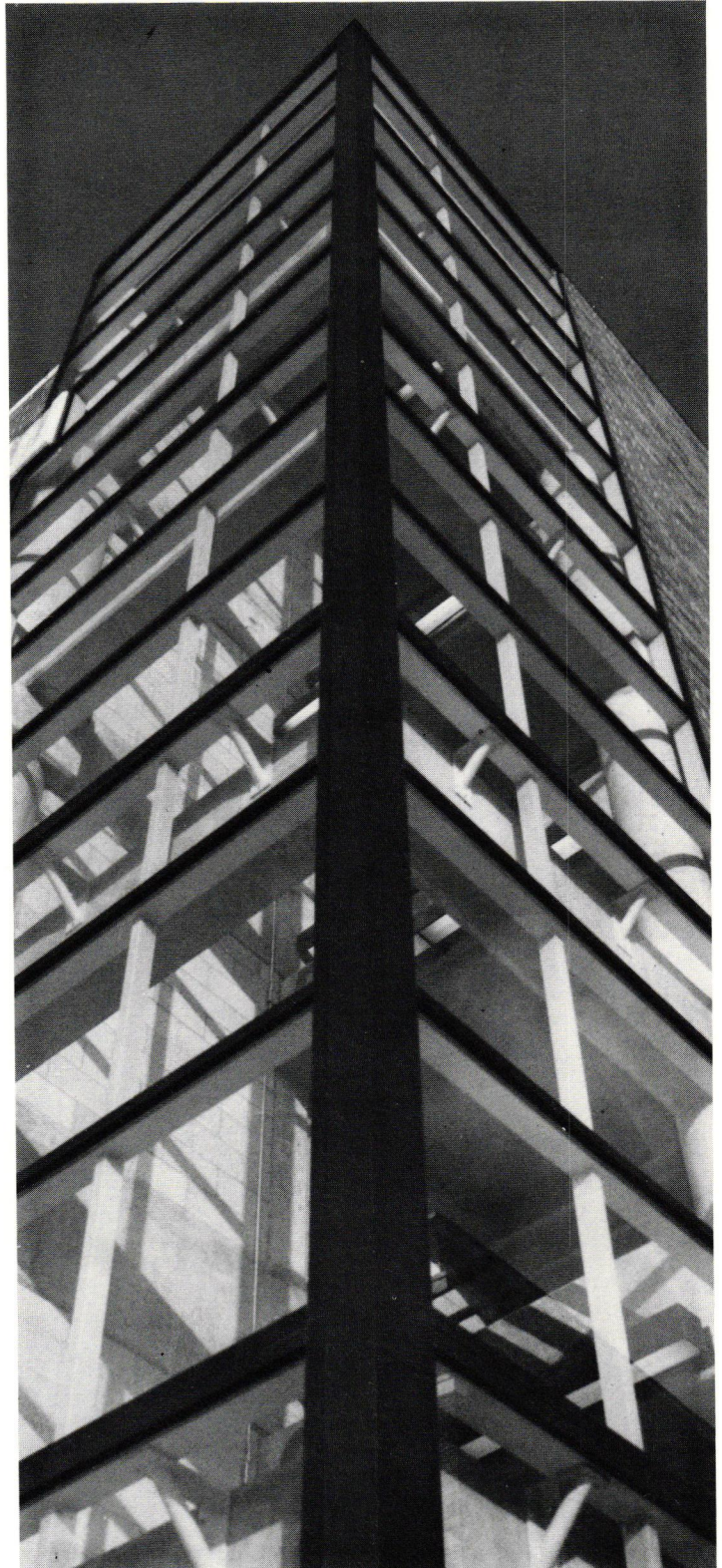
Macy Street Parking Ramp, Fond du Lac
Columbia Generating Station, Portage
Neopit Elementary School, Neopit
Midtown Parking Ramp, Appleton
Waupun Memorial Hospital, Waupun
Experimental Aircraft Association Museum,
Oshkosh
Wisconsin Resource Center, Oshkosh
Wisconsin Public Service, Plover
Alto Creamery, Alto
Outagamie Airport Terminal, Appleton
Columbus WWTP, Columbus
Stromberg Chevrolet, Appleton
Oshkosh Skill Center, Oshkosh
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Paper Valley Hotel & Conference Center,
Appleton
Hustisford High School, Hustisford
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*Macy Street Parking Ramp, Fond du Lac
Bowen Williamson Zimmerman Architects*

wisconsin architect/july 1983

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS WITH
DESIGN/BUILD ENGINEERING CAPABILITIES

HONOR AWARDS

PROJECT

Centennial Hall
Milwaukee Public Library
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

OWNER

City of Milwaukee
Milwaukee Public Library
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

ARCHITECT

Pfalter Herbst Associates
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Marino Construction Co., Inc.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

CONSULTANTS

Structural - Computerized Structural Design
HVAC - Ring & DuChateau, Inc.
Plumbing - Ring & DuChateau, Inc.
Electrical - Goulet Rigby & Associates, Inc.

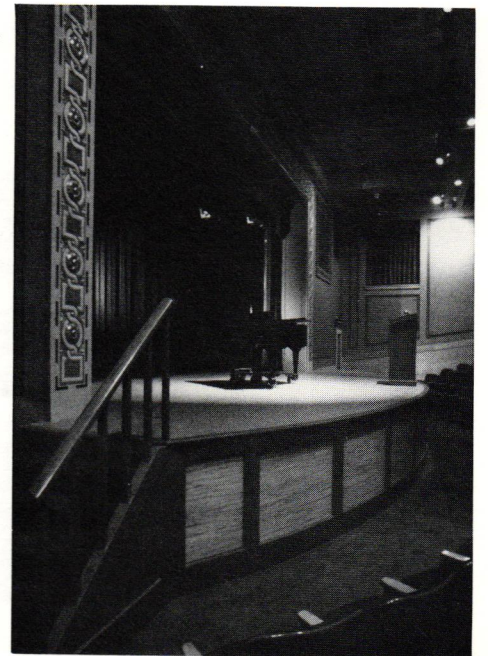
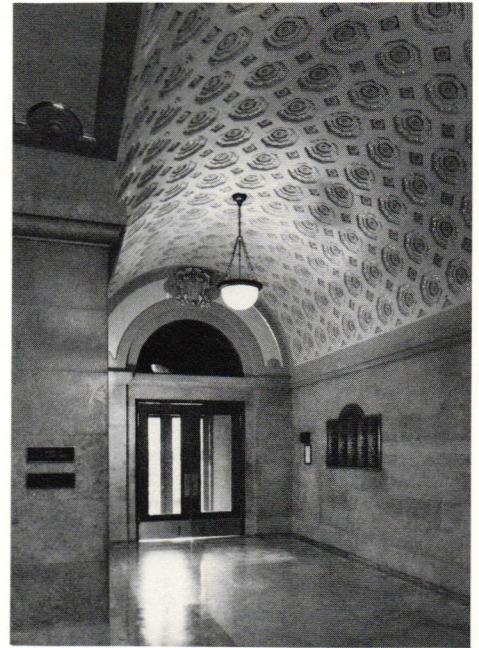
PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

Eric Oxendorf

Centennial Hall located in the main Public Library in downtown Milwaukee sat idle for over 25 years.

The four major objectives for the project were; first, to provide the community with a new facility that would be available at little or no cost. Second, to aid in the revitalization of downtown Milwaukee, west of the river. Third, to continue the efforts in the total restoration of the Milwaukee Public Library. Fourth, to enhance the existing programming of both the library and the Bookfellows.

Two thousand hours were spent painting the complex. The color selection process was extensive ranging from the beginning test panels to the final touches of silver and gold leaf. Now with only a minimal amount of light, these rooms have come alive with sparkling reflections.



Jury Comments

A very careful, thoughtful, and sensitive restoration of interior spaces. The color scheme and decorative work in this restoration are sensitive and exciting.

wisconsin architect/july 1983

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HONOR AWARD

PROJECT

3232 HOUSE
3232 N. Summit Ave.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211

OWNER

Robert M. Beckley, AIA
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211

ARCHITECT

Robert M. Beckley, AIA Principal in Charge
Beckley/Myers
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Robert M. Beckley, AIA
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211

PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

Paul Pagel and Robert M. Beckley

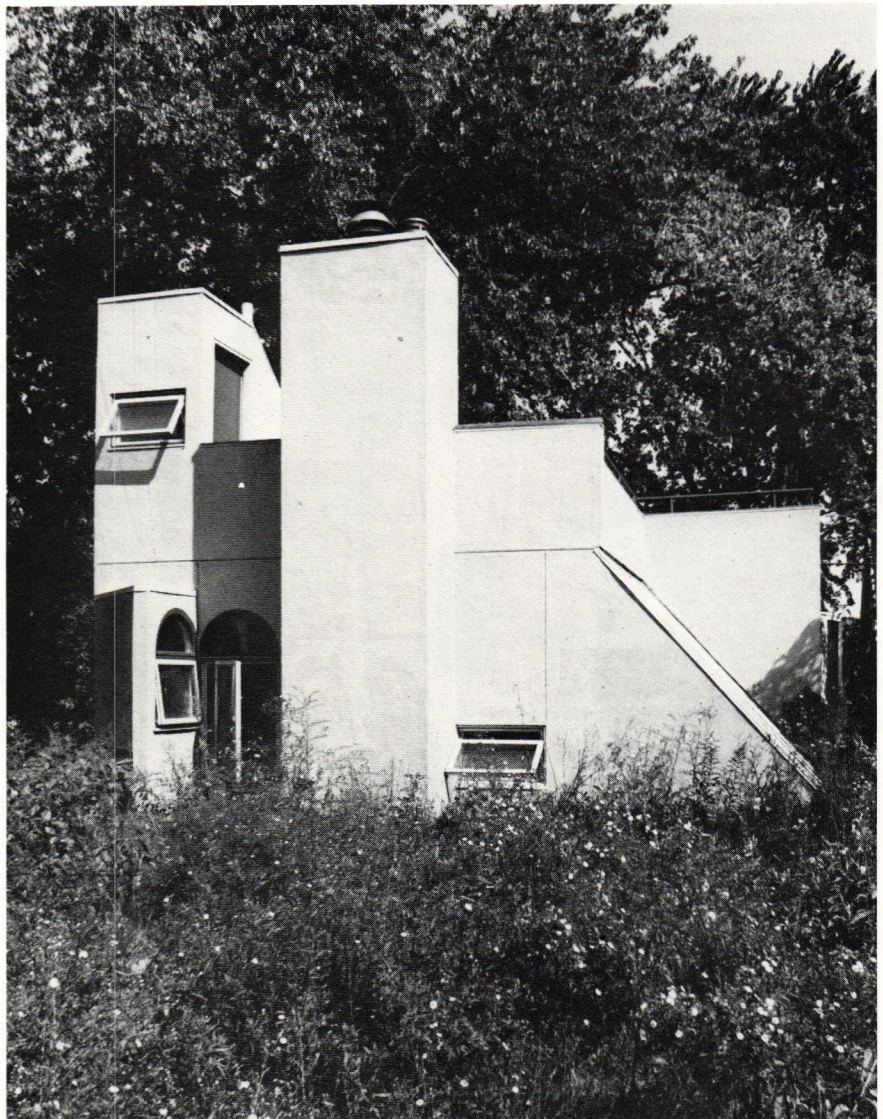
The 3232 HOUSE is built on what was once the side yard of a very large house in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The level site, 50' x 120', has mature plantings of forsythia, spirea, mockorange, a hawthorne tree, an apple tree and two maples. Their location became major determinants of the form of the house. It was decided at a very early stage of the design to make the house as unobtrusive as possible from the street — because the budget and size of the house (2,000 s.f.) made it impossible to aesthetically complement the much larger detached houses built at the turn of the century which comprise the rest of this urban block.

The house is made to seem large by visually connecting the three zones. A strong spatial character is achieved by introducing light through skylights, dropping the living room floor, exposing the beams of the dining room ceiling, and using interior windows, free standing columns and other architectural elements to create intentionally ambiguous relationships between rooms. The aesthetic result is intended to have the fragmentary character of a building under construction or a ruin.

JURY COMMENTS

A relatively small house which has been designed to provide a wonderful spaciousness. The architect was very clever and creative to make a reasonably small house seem very spacious and gracious. The architect kept everything under control. He didn't have to resort to spectacular forms or gymnastics, but was still able to create a quality in the house which is quite elegant and pleasant. Great discipline. It has a certain conciseness and modesty, yet able to maintain its graciousness. Nothing seems contrived.

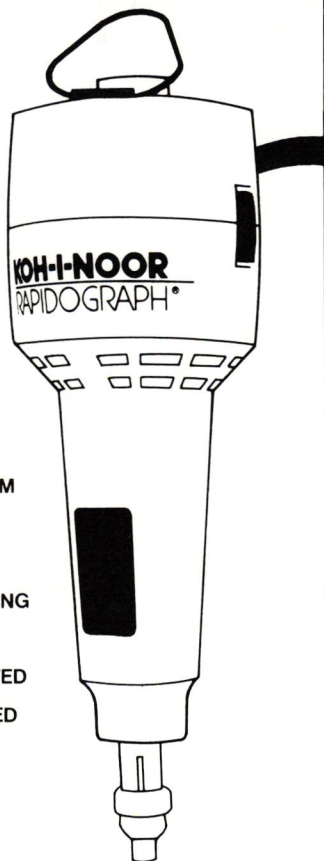
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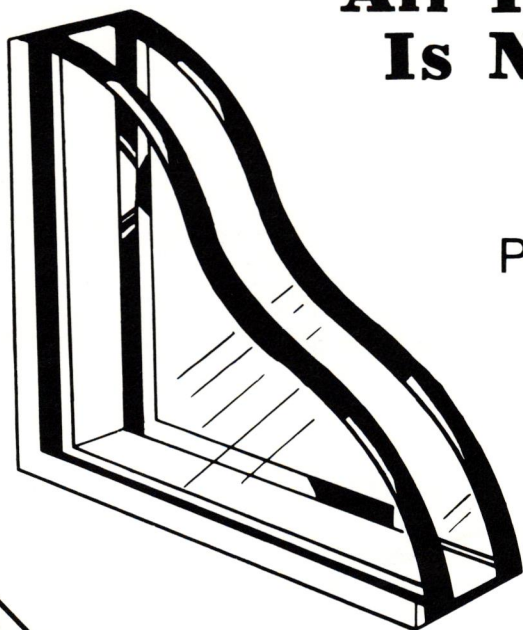
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HONOR AWARD

PROJECT

German-English Academy Building
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

OWNER

German-English Academy Associates
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

ARCHITECT

Kahler•Slater•Torphy•Engberg, Inc.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Torke-Maslowksi, Inc.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

CONSULTANTS

Computerized Structural Design, Inc.
Zien Mechanical Contractors
Staff Electric

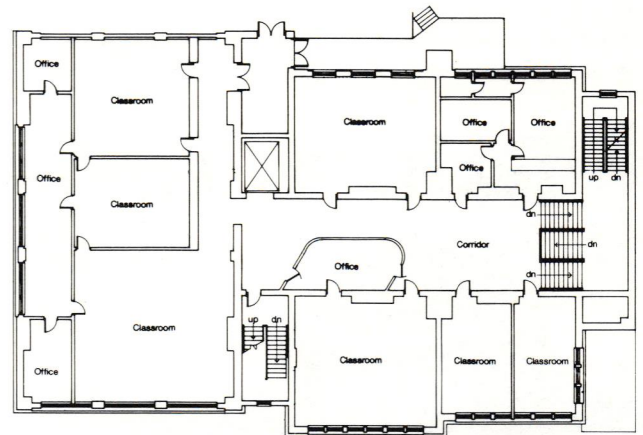
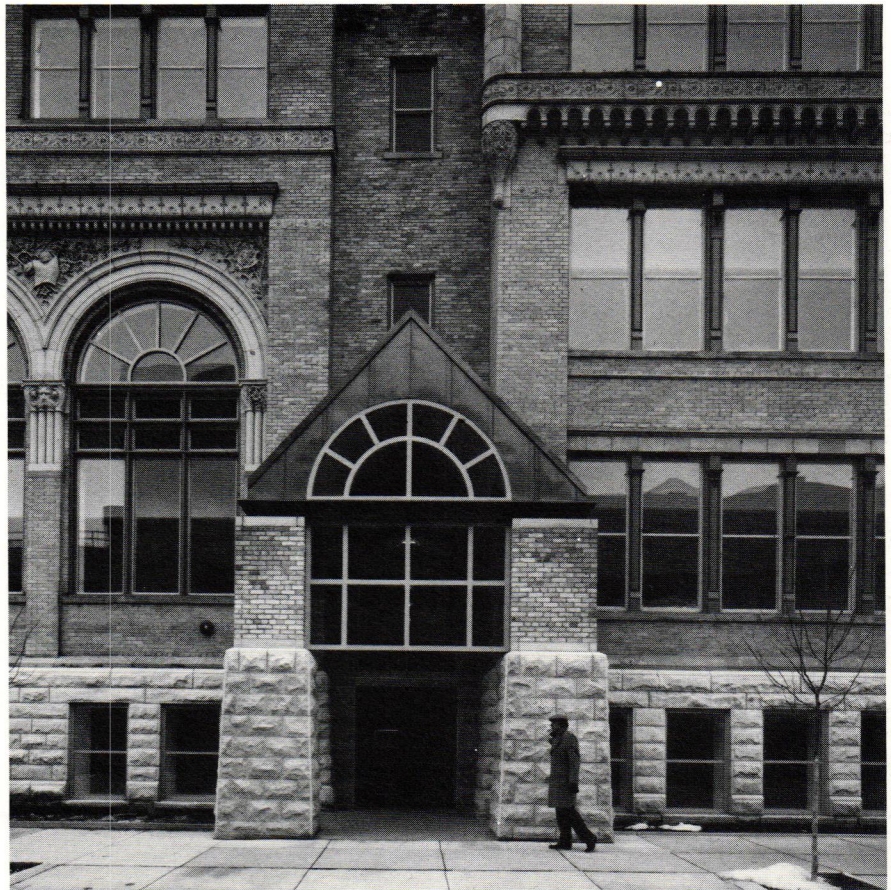
PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

Eric Oxendorf

The program was to convert a National Landmark Building built in 1890 (left abandoned and derelict) into modern commercial office space while restoring the building's facade to its former grandeur.

The design solution sought to enhance the building's image and to clarify the ambiguities of entry. A new entry canopy was built using the limestone base and "cream city" brick of the original building with a new roof element designed to recall stylistic elements of the existing building forms. This transitional element tying old and new together leads into a two story vestibule element at street level (handicapped accessible) with a new main stairway up to the first floor and a ramp down to the ground level and elevator. All corridors and public spaces in the building were redesigned.

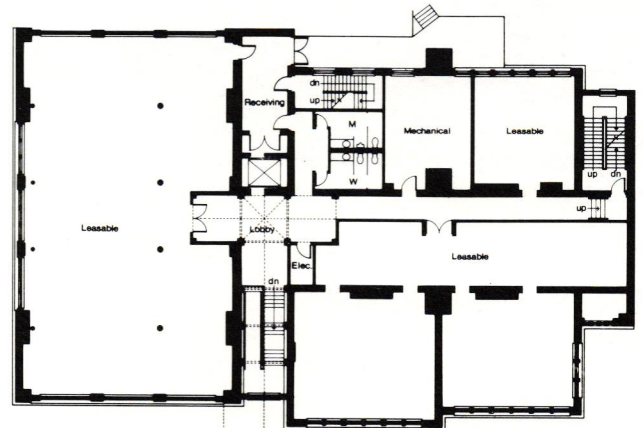
By designing a new element combining the turn-of-the-century forms with modern materials and carrying this detail into the contemporary commercial interior this National Landmark Building has a new lease on life.



Existing
First Floor Plan

Jury Comments

An extremely exciting and sensitive architectural solution to the change of an old building to a contemporary use. The architect creatively established spaces within the building which were not previously functional. The new major entryway to the building was created in a way which provides an exciting entry to the building yet is esthetically and visually compatible with the building's history and standing in the community. A good part of the success of the new entryway is that it does not pretend to be from another era, but, instead, is a sensitive and creative architectural resolution to the owner's problem. An extremely intelligent architectural solution to a most difficult problem.



Remodeled
First Floor Plan

*CAULKING
*BUILDING RESTORATION
*TUCKPOINTING
*WATERPROOFING
*DAMPPROOFING

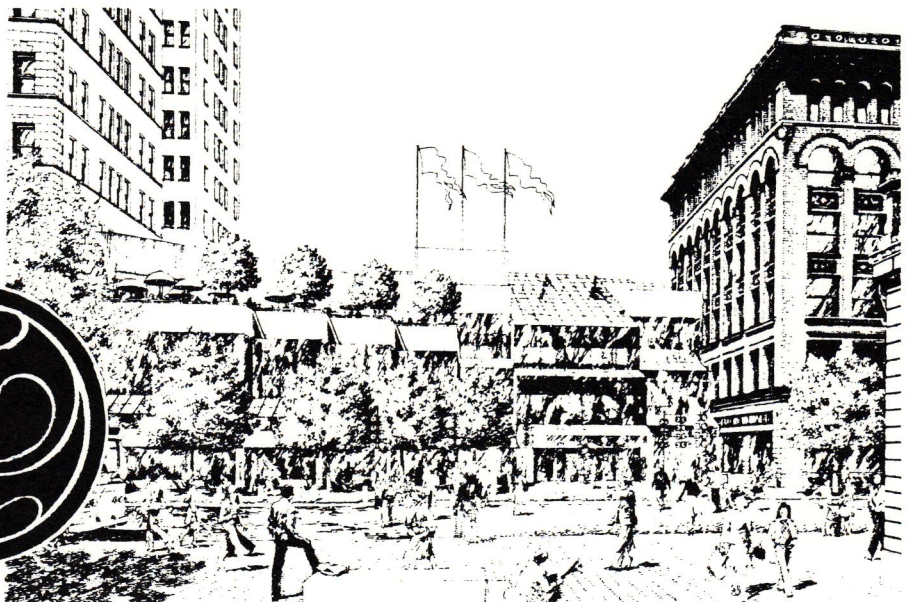
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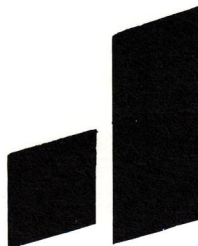
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*The
Grand
Avenue*



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HONOR AWARD

PROJECT

The Grand Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Owner

Milwaukee Redevelopment Corporation
The City of Milwaukee
The Rouss Company

ARCHITECT

Els Design Group
Berkeley, California

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

Morse/Diesel Inc.

CONSULTANTS

Structural/Graef-Anhalt-Schloemer & Assoc.
Mechanical/Bert Fredericksen
Electrical/Leedy & Petzold
Graphics/Sussman/Prejza Co. Inc.

PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

Eric Oxendorf and the staff of ELS Design Group

The Grand Avenue is a mixed-use project which encompasses five blocks of downtown. Conceived as an incremental stage of growth in Milwaukee's ongoing revitalization, its shopping, dining, and entertainment uses are the day-and-night glue that unites the various pieces of downtown into a cohesive place and draws people back into the downtown. The project sits in the context of a new hotel, a new convention center and arena, a new performing arts center, and several new office buildings. The Grand Avenue respects the social and urbanistic values of mixing old and new. In addition, it provides an increased tax base for the city, a return on investment for private capital, and will serve as a catalyst for other redevelopment in that part of downtown.



Jury Comments

A magnificent and creative resolution to a most difficult problem. A most successful reuse of the existing building. The detailing is extremely well done, projecting a festive quality and a breakdown of scale to smaller decorative elements. This is a perfectly marvelous example of a creative architectural solution which is so critical to the revitalization of our urban central cities.

CONGRATULATIONS

**ELS Design Group
Milwaukee Redevelopment Corp.
City of Milwaukee
The Rouse Company**

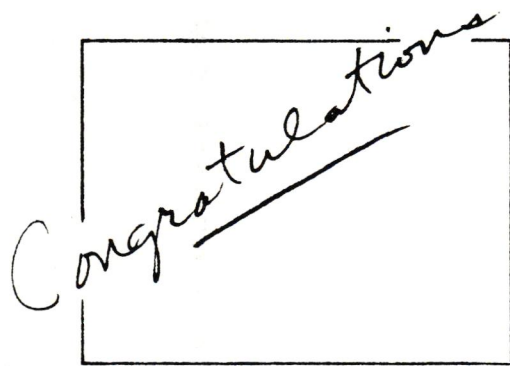
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LEEDY AND PETZOLD, INC.

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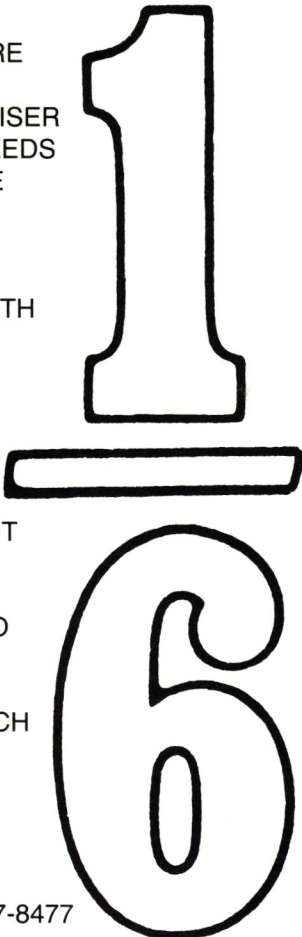
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Wisconsin Surety Corporation . . . Where Are You Now?

By Eric Englund

In 1966 Wisconsin Surety Corporation (WSC) started writing construction surety bonds in Wisconsin. Nine years later, the company was declared insolvent and forced into liquidation. During its nine years in existence WSC operated principally in the area of contract bonds, including bid bonds, performance bonds, and payment bonds. The issuance of these types of bonds intertwined WSC with substantial portions of the Wisconsin construction industry, and the demise of WSC therefore touched many owners, architects, contractors, subcontractors, materialman, and suppliers who were doing business in Wisconsin from 1966 to 1975.

The purpose of this article is to briefly review the factors which led up to the liquidation of WSC. The underlying story is exceedingly complex, and can no way be cap-sulized in an article of this length. As part of the liquidation of WSC, the Wisconsin Insurance Commissioner commissioned a detailed report on the insolvency of WSC. This Report is the primary reference for the information set forth in this article. a copy of this Report is available through the WSA's Lending Library. The factors associated with the insolvency of WSC as identified by the Report include the following:

- 1) Small Single-Line Surety Company
- 2) Lack of Control of Agents and Dishonest Agents
- 3) Service Fees
- 4) Underwriting Problems
- 5) Claims Problem
- 6) Financial Guarantee Bonds
- 7) Adverse Economic Conditions
- 8) Organized Crime Involvement

The fact that the above list only partially identifies those factors associated with the demise of WSC is testimony to the complexity of the underlying story. However, for purposes of this article some detailed examination to these eight factors will be given.

I SMALL SINGLE-LINE SURETY COMPANY

In excess of eighty percent of WSC's business involved writing contract related bonds. In dramatic comparison to this percentage of business, of the fifteen top Surety Companies in the U.S. thirteen do less than six percent of their total volume of business in suretyship, of which contract bonds is only a sub-category. While it appears that being small in and of itself does not mean failure, the smallness of WSC's operation combined with it's strong emphasis in only one line of operation apparently contributed to a vast number of WSC's problems as will be itemized below.

II LACK OF CONTROL OF AGENTS AND DISHONEST AGENTS

Surety agents are obviously intrigue in the process of surety bonding. Receiving a commission generally of thirty percent of the bond premium, there may be a temptation for the agent to attempt to place business with the Surety Company which is less than top shelf. Since the agent is the middleman between the owner and the surety company, ample opportunity exists for both dishonesty and "fudging".

In the case of WSC, there appears to have been substantial abuse of the agents' Power-of-Attorney. These Powers-of-Attorneys provide the agents with the authority to bind the Surety Company to the owner. WSC never installed a systematic means of keeping track of it's Power-of-Attorney forms. This means that they could never be positive that the forms were used, unless the agent let them know. This kind of procedure creates the potential for the agent to write a bond, accept a premium, and never notify the company of the bond . . . unless a loss developes. Unfortunately, it appears that there were

WSC agents who did pocket premiums and **only** advised WSC of the bond in the rare situations where a claim developed. One of WSC's leading agents was charged with 34 counts of illegal use of mails to further a criminal conspiracy and with two counts of violating anti-racketeering laws. More specifically, he and four others were charged with selling more than \$2,000,000 in bonds to contractors . . . not telling WSC. These sales allegedly resulted in more than \$100,000 in premiums that should have been turned over to the company.

Another alleged dishonest act concerned a California agent who allegedly paid the President of WSC \$1,000 a month for nineteen months in return for his receiving the unauthorized right to represent WSC in California.

III SERVICE FEES

In the litany of horrors surrounding WSC, another unusual practice concerned service fees. These fees theoretically arise when the agent charges an extra amount of money from the owner in addition to the normal commission. Apparently these fees were paid either to WSC or to the agent, or to both. In addition to possibly being illegal, the payment of these fees creates an atmosphere where companies that appear to be poor risks, through payment of a service fee, are in a position to attempt to pay such fees as a way of obtaining bonds.

IV UNDERWRITING PROBLEMS

If design is the heartbeat of architecture, underwriting is the heartbeat of a surety company. It is through underwriting that the surety makes the very important determination as to whether or not a bond should be issued.

WSC's underwriting apparently included a lack of written procedures, lack of a coordinated system of assembling and analyzing status reports on projects, lack of proper training and experience requirements for underwriters, lack of control over the agents by the underwriters, and a president who at times vetoed the recommendations of underwriters not to accept certain projects.

An example of this latter problem is the suggestion that in a number of situations where the underwriters determine that a project or an owner was a bad risk their decision was overturned by WSC's President.

An integral part of underwriting is the process of the surety obtaining indemnification and collateral. Unlike normal insurance, suretyship is premised upon the theory that if the surety does incur a loss the surety can obtain full indemnification through collateral which has been posted. In the situation of WSC, there are reports that in many situations the collateral was worthless, that principles could not be located, or that collateral or project funds had been diverted.

V CLAIMS HANDLING

"Disorganized, inefficient, and at times nonexistence" are terms used to describe the claims handling procedure of WSC in the Report.

Further complicating this description is the suggestion that one of the Presidents of WSC "hated to pay claims". An example of this hatred coming back to haunt WSC was cited in the Report in a claim which could have been settled for \$30,000. As of the date of the Report, payouts on the claims for the project was around \$650,000.

VI FINANCIAL GUARANTEE BONDS

In a financial guarantee bond the surety is in essence guaranteeing payment of a loan or a note. WSC wrote a number of these bonds, accepting a reasonably small premium (1% of the loan) for the risk. Consistent with the parade of horrors discussed above, substantial claims arose from these bonds.

The answer to why WSC wrote these kind of bonds is similar to any other of the why questions as might be raised in this litany ... nobody knows. However, the Report suggests that one of the Presidents of WSC was very much awed by an apparently successful businessman, and that as a result of this appearance of wealth and success consented to writing numerous financial guarantee bonds which resulted in substantial claims against WSC.

VII ADVERSE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

There apparently was a substantial increase in failures in the construction industry during 1974 and 1975 which put additional pressure on WSC in terms of its losses. The vulnerability of any company to recession or change in market place is obviously magnified when the individual company is substantially involved in only one line of business. The fact that WSC was a small company, specialized in construction industry surety bonds most certainly affected its demise during the adverse economic conditions that struck the construction industry in the mid 1970's.

VIII ORGANIZED CRIME INVOLVEMENT

No one tells the story of WSC without some suggestion that organized crime was a factor in the collapse of WSC. Whether or not this is the case and the extent of any such involvement is again a matter for speculation.

The Report does indicate that a Michael Grasso, nephew to Angelo Bruno, reputed head of the Mafia in Philadelphia, was allegedly involved in an attempted take over of WSC. As previously indicated, indictments returned by the Federal Grand Jury in Philadelphia charged five individuals, with reputed big crime connections, with selling more than \$2,000,000 in bonds, keeping \$100,000 in premiums, and not telling WSC. Further documenting the mess that was WSC, were negotiations to sell WSC which apparently resulted in some \$68,000 being withdrawn from an account and apparently still not being accounted for.

CONCLUSION

Such is a brief outline of the story of WSC. If you desire more information obtain a copy of the Report from the WSA's lending library.

wisconsin architect/july 1983

Society News

WELCOME TO THE CLUB

The President of the Wisconsin Bar Association reported the following letter in his column in a recent issue of the Wisconsin Bar Bulletin.

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"We'd like this opportunity to introduce you to our law firm. Enclosed is our 1982 firm portfolio, which will acquaint you with our philosophy and approach to the practice of law."

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"If you think we might be of assistance, please do not hesitate to consult us regarding our qualifications and fee policy."

To make matters worse, the letter was sent to a Green Bay bank by an **out-of-state law firm**. Horrors of horrors.

It may not be much consolation for architects to recognize that fellow professionals are also experiencing the realities of marketplace competition. The fact is . . . that doctors, lawyers, and indian chiefs are experiencing this competition in the marketplace. It may not be a particularly happy scene . . . but it's the real world.

UPDATE . . . STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS

In a recent decision, the Wisconsin Supreme Court has affirmed the application of a statute of limitations to a construction situation.

To make a long and involved story somewhat short . . . the State of Wisconsin found itself with a leaky roof and determined that the leak was caused by numerous individuals including the manufacturer of the roof insulation, the roofing subcontractor, the general contractor, and (you guessed it) the architect. The action against the contractor and architect alleged a breach of contract relating to their contractual obligations with regard to the roof of the building. The Wisconsin Supreme Court held that since the lawsuit was started six years and two months after the completion of the "basic contract work" that the applicable six year statute of limitations barred the claim for breach of contract against the contractor and architect.

MEMBERSHIP ACTIONS

GEMPELER, JAMES L., was approved for Associate Membership in the Southwest Wisconsin Chapter.

SUTTON, JOHN, was approved for AIA Membership in the Southwest Wisconsin Chapter. John is upgrading from Associate Member to AIA Member.

SIMONDS, CHARLES K., was approved for AIA Membership in the Southeast Wisconsin Chapter. Charles is upgrading from Associate Member to AIA Member.

BAUM, GREGORY T., was approved for AIA Membership in the Southeast Wisconsin Chapter.

PAUL, RANDAL J., was approved for AIA Membership in the Southeast Wisconsin Chapter.

RAKOCY, JOHN M., was approved for AIA Membership in the Southwest Wisconsin Chapter.

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FULMER, JUDITH A., Was approved for Student Membership in the Southeast Wisconsin Chapter.

SCHNUCK, LAWRENCE, J., was approved for AIA Membership in the Southeast Wisconsin Chapter. Lawrence is upgrading from Associate member to AIA Member.

PARTICIPANTS



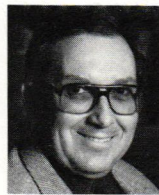
Brian Larson, AIA



Vic Halloran, AIA



Wayne Spangler, AIA



George Ehrich, AIA



Larry Bray, AIA



Pete Schuyler, AIA



Nat Sample, FAIA



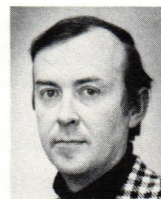
Roger Roslansky, AIA



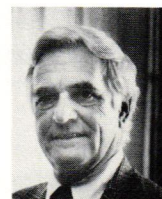
Noble Rose, AIA



Larry Earll, AIA



Ross T. Potter, AIA



Mark A. Pfaller, FAIA



Mike Meyer, FAIA

What do all these people have in common?

Sure . . . they're registered architects. But their real claim to fame is that they have recently done something to help **you**.

These individuals (and lots more) have recently contacted Wisconsin Legislators on matters of interest to you and your profession. They have provided background information to legislators and solicited the legislators' support of the WSA's position on a legislative matter.

What about you? Did you respond to the call? Are you registered as a WSA Minuteman? This may sound a little bit militant . . . but militancy is what it takes. We aren't asking for a lot of time or effort. A phone call or letter can take less than five minutes.

Participate in the legislative process on behalf of your profession. If you aren't registered as a WSA Minuteman . . . call Sandra at the WSA office and obtain a registration form. If you haven't been participating . . . now is the time to start.

HAPPY FEET



That's right . . . happy feet. And you know who's got them? Doug Ryhn, an Associate professor of architecture at UW-M . . . that's who. Doug is a WSA member and serves actively on the Editorial Board of the WISCONSIN ARCHITECT. And his feet . . . they were featured in the recent issue of The Milwaukee Journal on walking. Doug utilizes walking as the principle means of commuting to work and also for gathering material for a new class that he is teaching in the architectural ornamentation of 19th century homes.

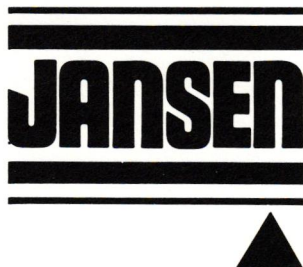
For those of us who are fortunate enough to interact with Doug . . . his happy feet have never had occasion to cause us concerns or to interfere in any way with an otherwise normal relationship. Keep smiling Doug.

DON'T FORGET 182.0175

That's the section of Wisconsin Law that requires every person who engages in or is responsible for the preparation of plans and specifications for non-emergency excavation or demolition to provide a minimum of three working days notice prior to the start of the excavation or demolition to the appropriate utility company. **The architect, engineer or other party planning the work must plan the work to avoid, to the extent possible, interference with the utility service.**

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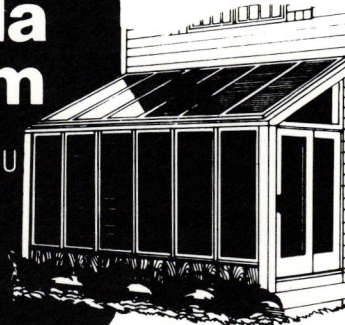
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Two actions may be appropriate:

1) The architect should write a letter to the client denying any liability for the structure given the fact that work is being undertaken on preliminary plans which were not prepared for purposes of construction or to comply with the appropriate standards of care necessary to protect the owner and the ultimate users of the building.

2) It is not clear under the existing DILHR code and the rules of the Examining Board of Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers, and Land Surveyors whether or not the architect **must** turn the owner into DILHR or the local building inspector. These rules do specifically require architects to adhere to applicable statutes and codes. They further provide that a registered person cannot "in any way aid or abet" an unauthorized person in the practice of architecture, professional engineering, etc. It is **possible** that a court might construe the architect's failure to turn in the owner as "aiding or abetting" the unauthorized practice of architecture. This seems a little far fetched . . . although the advice of legal counsel for your particular facts may be appropriate.

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The Beloit City Planning Division has recently completed work on a publication, Beloit Urban Design Guidelines. This publication delineates recommendations whereby residents, developers, businessmen can approve the City's appearance, strength and its self-image, promote its heritage and general community pride. These guidelines act as a blueprint in retrofitting and redirecting Beloit's physical growth and appearance. Noble Rose, AIA, served on the Beloit Urban Design Advisory Committee that assisted in the development of these guidelines. A copy of these guidelines are available through the WSA office.

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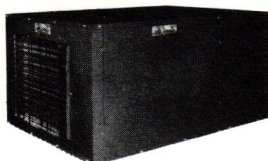
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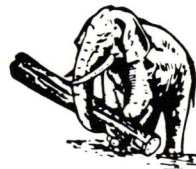
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**FEDERAL
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In a recent decision which greatly enhances the authority of the initial specifying influence, the U.S. District Court of Massachusetts, The Federal 1st Circuit Court, in the case of Whitten Corp. vs. Paddock, Inc., was backed up by the U.S. Supreme Court which several weeks ago refused to hear further appeals. **The decision is unique in that it defines the specifying party's clear authority at the federal level where previous decisions have been at lower court levels.**

Four major judgments regarding specifications come from this landmark decision:

The court ruled that proprietary specifications are not a violation of antitrust laws. Further, the court stated that trained professionals - specifiers - make informed judgments on products which they feel best serve their client's needs. Technically, few brands of materials or equipment are exactly alike, and if the specifier wants to limit the specification to one source, he has the responsibility to do so and to enforce it.

The court ruled that other suppliers or manufacturers can qualify as "or equal" only when the specifier chooses to waive specifications or permit those suppliers or manufacturers to bid.

It clearly stated that the specifying source is charged with the responsibility and judgment for determining whether a proposed substitution is an "or equal". Further, where "or equal" is not stated in the specifications, it is still the specifying source's decision as to what products do or do not qualify as "or equal".

The court stated that the specifier "... may waive specifications in order to obtain a more desirable product for the client." The implication is again that only the specifier (from start to finish of the construction process) can ultimately decide that another desirable product is available in lieu of the product originally specified in the client's best interest.

The court concluded "the burden is on the supplier or manufacturer who has not been specified to convince the specifier that their product is equal for the purpose of a particular project.

This is probably one of the most powerful court judgments in construction law history in that the judgments establish the specifier's legal brand selection prerogatives and authority. It should also merit very important consideration in every manufacturer's future marketing strategies.

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PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

Mark Fay
Mondovi, Wisconsin

CLIENTS PROBLEM

St. Croix Falls School System had a deteriorating high school, parts of which date back to 1908. Increased enrollments and academic needs, coupled with age and condition of high school structure dictate that the building be partially demolished and used as a middle school and that a new earth sheltered, solar assisted high school be constructed on site near elementary center and bus garage.

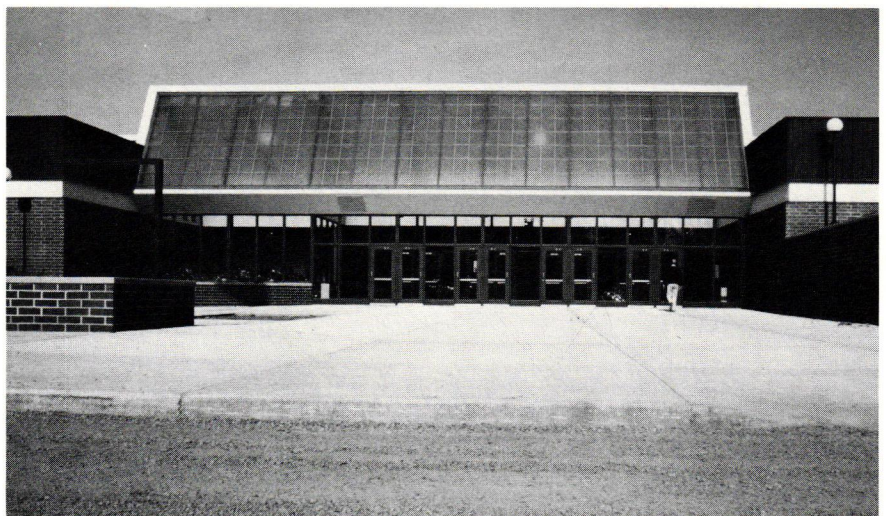
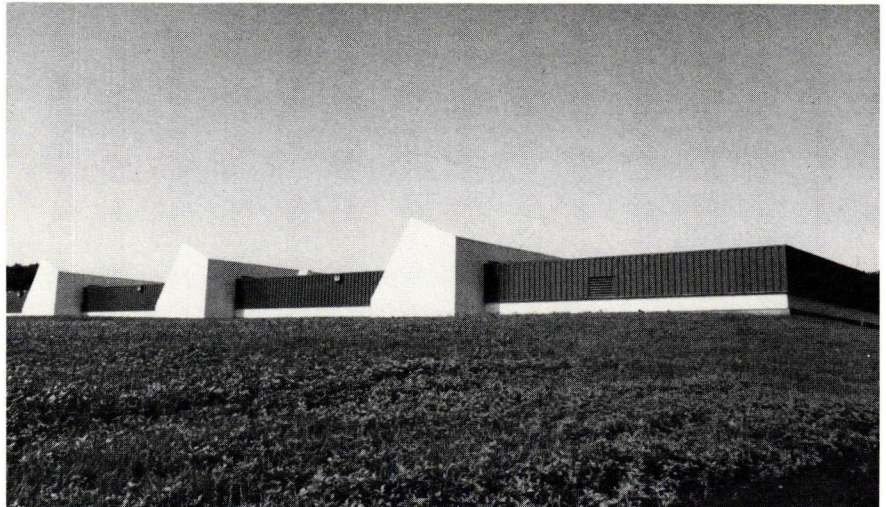
ARCHITECTS EVALUATION AND SOLUTION

Deep earth berming combined with passive solar glazing will provide maximum heating and cooling assistance.

Building must be super-insulated with R-40 roof and R-20 walls so heat generated by students, lights, motors, and kitchen equipment will augment passive solar gains.

Occupied building during winter should have excess of heat from solar and internal sources requiring cooling by heat pumps during occupied period. Excess heat to be stored in buried insulated 50,000 gallon water tanks.

During unoccupied periods with students gone, lights off, and internal source heat diminished, heat pumps reverse and return stored energy to building. Fourteen small



PASSIVE SOLAR PANEL AT MAIN SOUTH ENTRY TO HIGH SCHOOL

The only fenestration in the entire building other than the passive solar panels is the main entrance. Greenhouse feature at west end of entranceway provides pleas-

ant vista, as well as work shop area for agriculture department, horticulture lab and adjacent earth science classroom.

gas-fired boilers will group-fire, generating 119 degree water for long unoccupied periods of temperature extremes.

Heat loss of typical High School: 150,000 BTU/Gross Square Feet/Year.

Heat loss of St. Croix Falls High School: 50,000 BTU/GSF/YR.

The Kalwall passive solar glazing system is cleanly integrated into the architecture of the building and articulates the location of all corridors, stairs, and entrances.

75 percent of the building perime-

ter is earth sheltered. Although half the exits are directly to grade from the classroom level, the berm height is adjusted to half depth at all other points of egress, maintaining maximum earth shelter effect.

Solar orient new high school building on property adjacent to Elementary and Bus Maintenance facility. Plan and locate high school to allow for Middle School Addition at later date, which will complement present design.

Develop roads and athletic areas for optimum control of vehicular and pedestrian traffic.



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